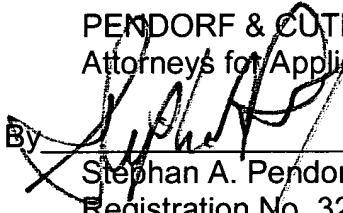


A check for the statutory filing fee of \$1020.00 is attached. Please charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0877. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to said Account.

Priority is claimed from October 29, 1999, based on German Application No. 199 52 506.4.

Respectfully submitted,

PENDORF & CUTLIFF
Attorneys for Applicants

By 
Stephan A. Pendorf
Registration No. 32,665

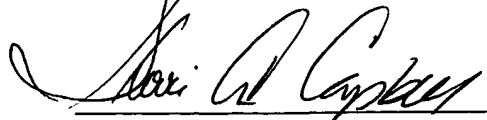
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

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DATE OF DEPOSIT: **October 18, 2000**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing cover letter including the specification, claims, abstract, two (2) drawings, Preliminary Amendment and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: **ATTN: Patent Application, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.**

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Sherri A. Campbell

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Sherri A. Campbell